



# County of San Diego

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## **EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE (EMCC) MEETING**

Paul Forney, Chair/ Dr. Chris Scott, Vice Chair  
c/o SD County Emergency Medical Services Office  
5560 Overland Ave, Rm 171, San Diego 92123

### **Minutes**

**Thursday, November 16, 2023**

#### **Members Present**

Bojanowski, R.N., Michael – American Red Cross  
Calderwood, Michael – SD County Fire Chiefs' Association  
Davis, Sgt, Michael – Law Enforcement Agencies  
Forney, Paul – SD County Ambulance Association  
Froelich, Dan – County Paramedic Agencies Committee  
Graydon, R.N., Cheryl – Emergency Nurses' Association  
Jordan, Jonathan – SD County Fire Districts' Association  
Maxwell, Paul – SD County Paramedic Association  
Murphy, Mary – County Paramedic Agencies Committee (Alt)  
Wells, R.N., Christine – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators (Alt)  
Wiese, Lisha – Hospital Association of SD/Imperial Counties

#### **In Attendance**

Clyons, Jeff – SDFRD  
Duffy, Jennifer – SMFD  
Levine, Saul – Sharp Memorial  
Lopez, Brent – Reach Air Medical  
Pearson, Nate – Carlsbad FD  
Sullivan, Don – AMR

#### **Not in Attendance**

District 1  
District 2  
District 3  
District 4  
District 5  
Military Agencies  
SD County Medical Society

#### **County Staff**

Assof, Michael  
Christison, Brian  
del Toro, Nicole (recorder)  
Haidari, Tareq  
Meick, Tyler  
Parr, Andy  
Regier, Marc  
Smith, PhD, Josh  
Trousdale, Brad

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### **I. CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ INTRODUCTIONS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Paul Forney, EMCC Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:32 AM. A quorum was declared.
- B. The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. There were no introductions or announcements.

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### **II. PUBLIC COMMENTS/ PETITIONS**

There were not public comments or petitions.

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### **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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**A motion was made by Dan Froelich, seconded by Michael Calderwood to approve the October 26, 2023 EMCC minutes. Motion carried.**

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#### IV. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

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**A. Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee – Paul Forney on behalf of Chris Scott, MD**

- Received an update on Community Paramedicine and the Suboxone Programs.
- No policies were introduced or received.

**B. Education and Research Subcommittee – Cheryl Graydon, RN**

- Received an update on the Community Paramedicine Program.

**C. Disaster Planning Subcommittee – Lisha Wiese**

- Upcoming pediatric and burn surge focused statewide exercises.
  - Multiple exercises planned for next year. Dates will be provided at the next meeting.
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#### V. COUNTY REPORT

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**A. Administrative Report – Andy Parr, EMS Administrator**

Frequently Asked Questions with Answers:

- 1) Is it true that the Base Station Hospital Review presentation was recorded and can be reviewed if we missed it?

*Yes. It will be available on our website soon at [www.sandiegocountyems.com](http://www.sandiegocountyems.com). Watch your email for more information.*

- 2) Is there a COVID mask order for all unvaccinated health care personnel?

*No, but the Flu Order is in effect and can be found on our website at [www.sandiegocountyems.com](http://www.sandiegocountyems.com)*

- 3) Health Services Capacity Task Force Plan Level has been at Plan Level 4 for many months. Is anybody checking on this?

*Yes. The metrics are viewed each workday by EMS Epidemiology. The plan level will be lowered to Plan Level 5 – Baseline Surveillance on Friday.*

- 4) Can I still submit protocol questions?

*No. It was open for the month of October and is now closed for this year.*

- 5) Did the San Diego County Fire Protection District take over ambulance service in the backcountry?

*Yes. As of October 1, 2023, the Ambulance Service Area (ASA) became effective.*

- 6) If my Fire Department wants to be a Pilot Agency for field buprenorphine administration, can we sign up to participate in this program?

*We welcome interested parties who report on LEMSIS to contact us about joining.*

- 7) Can I get on an email list about new protocols posted for public comment?

*Yes, just sign up on the Public Comment page at [www.sandiegocountyems.com](http://www.sandiegocountyems.com)*

- 8) I keep hearing about the ED Impact Score. What is that?

*It is a Pilot Program underway for several months. This metric offers a quick and easy way for emergency departments to signal to County EMS and the rest of the system how busy they are. There is a scorecard with key metrics. A score equals a patient load impact on the ED, similar to a traffic light approach – green is good, yellow is slow, red is stop. The score is to be taken every 2 hours. The scorecard is used by Scripps, Sharp, and UCSD hospitals.*

- 9) Will the LEMSA be open the day after Thanksgiving?

*No. The County EMS Office will be closed on the following days:*

- Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Day after Thanksgiving, Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup>
- Christmas Day, Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>
- New Years Day, Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

*Staffing may be a little lighter even on the days that we are working. Please be patient with us during the holiday period.*

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#### VI. SYSTEM POLICY REVIEW (Endorsement Vote)

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There were no policies for review.

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## VII. REPORTS

### A. Base Hospital/Trauma Catchment Review – Brian Christison, Program Coordinator

An update was provided on this project's progress. Please see the County EMS website for up-to-date information.

### B. Community Paramedicine – Tyler Meick, EMS Coordinator

The County EMS Office submitted the application packet to EMSA on September 15. EMSA requested additional information on October 15. The updated application was resubmitted on October 20. EMSA requested new additional information on November 6. Today, County EMS will resubmit and answer all the questions that we can on the application, with the understanding that EMSA will probably not approve the application because of a larger, parallel issue being addressed via other channels.

In the meantime, the Advisory Council will continue to meet and advise the EMS Office to continue to make Community Paramedicine implementation as robust as possible.

We have received one question that offered an opportunity to clarify the path to become a community paramedic. In the future, CP recognition will require 1) have completed CP training and 2) have a current IBSC CP-C certificate.

The Community Paramedicine Advisory Council members include: 2 Emergency Medicine Physicians, 2 Registered Nurses, 2 Licensed Paramedics, 2 Hospital Representatives, 1 Ambulance Association Representative, 2 Fire Chiefs Association Representatives, 2 Hospital Association Representatives, 1 California Professional Fire Fighter Representative.

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## VIII. OLD BUSINESS

### A. Recommendation from Disaster Subcommittee regarding CAL-AAMS Request for Membership

**ACTION: The Disaster Operations Subcommittee has respectfully declined the request of a seat from CAL-AAMS to become a full voting member on the EMCC at this time, but instead suggest that the request become part of the EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee as a technical representative. When the Bylaws are re-opened either for other business or on a routine basis, the Disaster Operations Subcommittee will reconsider their request for full membership.**

A recommendation was made to add an equal to Cal-AAMS, such as the Fire Rescue helicopters, so that we see both the private and public side of helicopter use.

**ACTION: This recommendation will go back to the Disaster Operations Subcommittee for further review.**

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## IX. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

**ACTION:**

- **County EMS will send a letter to the San Diego County Medical Society for new appointment to EMCC.**
- **County EMS will work with the Clerk of the Board to fill the vacancies on District Seats 1-3.**

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## X. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next EMCC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 25, 2024 at 9:30 am in person. Location is TBD. Meeting adjourned at 10:06 am.